

## STREAM OF SNAKES POURS FROM CELLAR

Wriggle Upstairs in Queens  
Home Faster Than  
Family Can Kill.

## INVASION EVERY YEAR

Mrs. Miller of Hollis Has  
Been Cured of Nerves  
Battling Reptiles.

## SLEW EIGHT IN ONE DAY

Death Total for Last Year Was  
Forty Blacksnakes  
Alone.

"You can't miss it," said the youth of whom The New York Herald reporter asked the way to Maxwell Miller's house in Palo Alto avenue, Hollis, yesterday. "Keep on past Haywood place and when you come to the house with six snakes stretched out in the road in front of it, that's it."

There were six of them—blacksnakes, all less than six feet long, but not much. The shortest was a little more than five feet from end to end and they were arranged in order of their size. The house faces Hillside avenue and there's a long stretch of sloping field between the house and that thoroughfare. To the right of the house lay another blacksnake somewhere between five and six feet long. It was not quite dead and Mr. Miller was putting the finishing touches to it with a rake.

Nearby there were three oversize garter snakes and a snake that seemed to be a cross between the garter and the blacksnake. Mr. Miller was laying on with his rake and keeping an eye on the terrace below looking for more snakes.

"Yes," said Mr. Miller, giving the exploring reptile a final wallop. "He's the seventh to-day. The place is full of them. Can't explain it. No other house in the neighborhood has them."

The reporter had made inquiries around the neighborhood and had learned this was the case.

"We've always had them," said Mr. Miller. "Last year we killed forty blacksnakes and so many garter snakes that we sort of lost count. On Thursday afternoon Mrs. Miller, my wife, killed eight."

"Just a minute, please," interrupted the reporter. "Mrs. Miller killed how many?"

"Eight," repeated Mr. Miller. "A big boy about six feet long, another about five, and six young ones ranging from three to three feet six—probably a family coming in for the winter. She was in the house looking out the window and saw the big fellow coming up the terrace."

"Mrs. Miller was a very nervous woman before this snake invasion. To-day she is quite well and self-possessed. She can polish off any number of snakes, and aside from the rather natural loathing for a snake that seems to be the heritage of humanity she doesn't mind it in the least. But she saw this big fellow and got her rake. She clipped him behind the head and then noticed his wife coming along. She has become expert with the rake and one wallop settled the wife. Then she abolished the children."

"We're thinking of writing Dr. DeMars of the Bronx Zoo and asking him to send an expert out to look us over. There's something uncanny about it. Just about this time every year they begin coming. One might explain it by saying that the snakes want a nice warm home for the winter, but why on earth should they concentrate on my cellar? They ignore all my neighbors."

"We've lived here several years and we've always had snakes pouring in from the cellar. An occasional snake meant nothing very much to us. We knocked them off the coil and poached them in the potato bin. But they weren't epidemic. We used to talk about that day we killed the blacksnake in the coal bin. But you can go down my cellar and find the place where your luck with two big brutes that are down there. I'll give you a rake and show you where they are."

"Then year before last I had a wall back of the house uncovered. There was something wrong with the pipes and we decided to investigate. There was something there, believe me. Thirty-two assorted snakes in the pipes and along the crevices. There was a terrible slaughter, let me tell you."

"Personally I'm not afraid of snakes. Neither is Mr. Miller, nor my little daughter. Moreover, we take no great pleasure in killing them. But it's a nuisance to expect a family of human beings to be crawling over the place. We used to talk about that day we killed the blacksnake in the coal bin. But you can go down my cellar and find the place where your luck with two big brutes that are down there. I'll give you a rake and show you where they are."

"Of course the fall season is just beginning. Since Thursday morning we've bagged fifteen and it looks like a big year. This would be a dubious advertisement if we wanted to sell the place, but we don't. A man from California wanted to buy last year and offered a big price, but we refused. So they can't accuse us of press agenting the place with snakes."

"There's this about their concentrating on my place. We Hollis Gardens folk can mollify snakes and fight the snakes face to face. It's much easier than guerrilla warfare or bushwhacking. We know the snakes are here and we can concentrate on them. We've never had them bigger than six feet and we have never had them in any other place in the house than the cellar."

"Mr. Miller is in the optical business at 141 Fulton street."

## STOUTS PARADE IN AVENUE.

Churchgoers See Reducing Squad on Way to Exercise.

Church going throngs in Fifth avenue were started yesterday morning at the appearance of a group of fifty women who comprise the Health Department fat reducing squad taking a constitutional. They had started from their training quarters in Madison Square Garden and were heading for Central Park, where they engaged in races, rolls and tumbles and other strenuous efforts by which they hoped to attain more graceful figures.

Traffic at Fifth avenue and Forty-second street was halted while the squad passed. The squad members were not at all perturbed.

## LITTLE ALECK'S A SHROUD FOR HIS HOPES

Trousers and All Were Much Too Big for Him, but  
He Learns That They Were Made for  
His Successor.

A diminutive negro who answers to the name of Aleck and operates the elevator and the switchboard in an apartment house in upper Broadway blazed forth the other day in a resplendent new uniform with gorgeous decorative effects and yards of gold lace.

But Aleck hated the new uniform because it didn't fit. It had been carefully tailored and was very beautiful, but it had been made for a man about three sizes larger than Aleck ever will be. Aleck rolled up the sleeves and turned up the legs of his trousers, but still the suit was so large that he felt ashamed of himself and spent all the time he could hiding behind the switchboard. When he had to answer an elevator call he hopped furtively across the lobby of the house, almost always falling because his trousers interfered with the free movement of his legs.

It was a great mystery to the tenants of the house this morning for Aleck a suit three sizes too large. They asked Aleck about it but Aleck said he didn't know why it was done, but he thought it was a sin and a shame, principally because the legs of the pants flapped around and down his insteps and completely hid his new shoes, while the sleeves of the coat came down so far that his seven carat near diamond was absolutely wasted. Finally one of the women tenants asked Aleck why he didn't ask the landlord, and Aleck said he would.

The next day the tenant met Aleck in the lobby and Aleck was little more than a mass of gloom. "Did you ask him, Aleck?" the tenant asked.

"Yesum," said Aleck. "I asked him."

"Did he tell you?"

"Yesum, he told me."

"So now you know why he got such a large suit?"

"Yesum, I know. The boss say he got this big suit because even if it don't fit me, it'll fit the boy he's gonna get when I get fired. He say he don't waste money buyin' suits for little boys when he's probably gonna fire me anyway sooner or later."

CLINIC SPECIALISTS  
WILL SERVE AT COST

Cornell College's New Service  
Near Bellevue to Be on  
Model Plan.

Diagnosis and treatment by specialists in all the chief branches of medicine and surgery will be offered to persons of moderate means when Cornell University Medical College opens its model pay clinic at First avenue and Twenty-seventh street. The fees will cover merely the cost of service. Regarding the forthcoming service Dr. Walter L. Niles, dean of the college, said yesterday:

"There is a great need of some agency through which diagnosis and treatment by specialists can be brought within the economic means of persons of ordinary income. It is estimated that more than 2,000,000 persons in Greater New York are faced with the alternative of accepting charity or going without skilled medical attention."

"Our new pay clinic will be open every afternoon from 1:30 until 4 o'clock, except on Sundays and holidays. Dr. Niles' clinic will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays until 7 o'clock. The fees will be \$1 for each visit for examination and treatment. Medicine, laboratory tests, X-ray photography and other supplies will be furnished at cost. Diagnosis of cases requiring special examination and study, with group consultation of specialists, will cost \$2.50. Appointments may be made by phone, Madison Square 2125."

"In charge of the clinics will be the following professors: Medicine, Dr. Lewis A. Connor; obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. George Gray Ward; urology, Dr. Edward L. Keyes, Jr.; neurology, Dr. Harry M. Smith; psychiatry, Dr. George H. Kirby; dermatology, Dr. Hans J. Schwartz; urology, Dr. Frederick Whitman; laryngology and otology, Dr. Charles H. Wallace; roentgenology, Dr. Lewis Gregory Cole; ophthalmology, Dr. Robert G. Reese."

## CHURCHES JOIN LABOR FOR GARDEN MEETING

Federation Drops Plan for  
Separate Rally on Nov. 11.

The New York Federation of Churches has abandoned its original plan to hold a separate mass meeting on the night of November 11, Armistice Day, and will join with the Central Trades and Labor Council in the Madison Square meeting.

Seymour E. Cromwell, president of the New York Stock Exchange, is associate chairman of the committee on arrangements, acting with John Sullivan, president of the Central Trades and Labor Council, Ralph M. Easley, secretary of the National Civic Federation, in associate chairmanship of the finance committee. Among the speakers at the meeting will be Samuel Gompers, Major William F. Deegan of the American Legion, Mr. John J. Dunn, soon to be bishop, Bishop William T. Manning, Alfred E. Smith and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS PLANT MEMORIAL TREES

Ten Members Who Died in  
War Honored.

The Knights of Pythias of Manhattan and the Bronx planted ten trees in Central Park just east of the Mall near the Casino yesterday in memory of ten members of the order who were killed in the war with Germany. The ceremonies were attended by the mothers and other relatives of the dead veterans and members of the Knights of Pythias.

Charles S. Whitman, former Governor of New York, was the principal speaker. Others who made addresses were Mayor John F. Hylan, John J. Ryan, Acting Commissioner of Parks, Morris A. Drucker, Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias of Manhattan, and the Rev. R. A. Timmer. The men in whose memory the trees were planted were Emanuel Brode, Morris Brode, Alexander Goldberger, Joseph Heine, Louis I. Hirsfield, Solomon D. Katz, David M. Klein, David Heleman, Sidney U. Schwartz and Jesse Steinthal.

## JEW SEEK \$14,000,000 FOR EUROPEAN RELIEF

4 Months Campaign in New  
York Starts This Week.

The American Jewish Relief Committee begins this week a national campaign to raise \$14,000,000 in four months to meet the emergency caused by the Russian famine and by the economic stagnation throughout many parts of Central Europe. The committee must raise at least \$5,000,000 for emergency work in Russia alone.

David A. Brown of Detroit is chairman of the committee and has opened national headquarters at 165 Park avenue, New York. Among the New York members of the committee are Louis Marshall, chairman of the National Executive Committee; the Rev. Dr. Judah L. Magnes, Cyrus L. Sulzberger, A. E. Rothstein, Arthur Lehman, Abram I. Elkus, Henry Morgenthau, Judge Otto A. Rosenthal and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise.

## DETECTIVES CORRAL FOUR IN GUN BATTLE

Say They Found Them Trying  
to Rob Clinton St.  
Theatre Safe.

TWO MORE ARRESTED

Wife of Alleged Crackman  
and Special Watchman  
Are Taken.

Former AS A 'LOOKOUT'

Stapleton's Sleuths in Taxicab  
Follow Accused Gangsters  
After Getting Tip.

Detectives of the Safe and Loft Squad under command of Lieut. Stapleton, had a pistol battle early yesterday with four men in the office of the old Clinton Street Theatre in 86 Clinton street, after they had, according to the detectives' charges, come upon the men attempting to blow the safe in which was about \$2,000. All of the four men were arrested, as well as a woman, who was said by the police to have been acting as lookout on the sidewalk, and a man who had been employed as special watchman for the theatre.

Lieut. Stapleton received information late Saturday night that a gang contemplated the robbery. With Detectives William Riley, James Hayden, James Kilroy, Louis Barret, Anthony Braunsworth, John Morrissey and John Gorman, he used a touring car and followed a taxicab driven by one of the men accused of being a member of the gang, George Weinberg, of 63 East Ninety-ninth street. The police say that Weinberg, with members of the gang, drove about town for several hours, finally stopping the machine in front of the home of Harry Rosofsky, the special policeman, who lives in 14 Clinton street.

The police declare that Weinberg and the others, numbering four all told, went to Rosofsky's apartment and sat for an hour around the table. Then they came downstairs, leaving Rosofsky's apartment, from which he could see the theatre. Weinberg, with Rocco and Rizzo of 331 East 123d street, George Eberhard of the same address and Morris Welenisky of 9 East 112th street, flung a side door of the theatre, the police charge, and went inside. Rizzo's wife, Marie, 26 years old, remained outside, the detectives allege, and began a slow patrol of the block, knocking several times on the theatre door when she saw a policeman.

The detectives waited until they figured the gang had finished "sawing" the safe and were about ready to use their explosive. Then Detective Gorman placed Mrs. Rizzo under arrest and arrested him. Lieut. Stapleton and the others entered the theatre and yelled at the alleged safe blowers to surrender. Instead the men began shooting. The other games that contributed to the fire until the ammunition of the alleged safe blowers was exhausted. Then the men were arrested. No one was hurt.

At headquarters last night it was said that all of the prisoners have criminal records. Each of them was charged with burglary, attempted burglary and possessing weapons in violation of the Sullivan law.

Among the New Arrivals of  
Early American Furniture  
from New England

AU QUATRIEME

Little  
Candlestands

in maple and mahogany,  
with tripod bases and  
snake feet, are full of  
the grace and simplicity  
of furniture of Colonial  
days. \$20 to \$60.

Straight-Back Chairs

are particularly fine examples of the cabinet work of their period. Such as a pair of painted eagle-back chairs in their old dull brown and gold paint, very like the Hitchcock chair, except that the eagles in their backs are poised with widespread wings. \$100 the pair.

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A Maple Bureau

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Fourth Floor, Old Building

## NEGRO HELD AS SHIELD AS SHOTS POUR AT COP

Friend of Assaults Gets  
Three Bullets.

The life of Policeman William Harvey of the Orange (N. J.) police force was saved last night by a negro he seized and held in front of him when a dozen of the man's friends threatened him. The negro used by Harvey as a shield was shot three times. He is in a serious condition in Orange Hospital.

Harvey went into the negro quarry to investigate the report that the friends of a negro woman who was robbed by some boys Saturday night were preparing to settle the matter in their own way. He was shot at from the window of a house. He grabbed a negro who tried to pass him and swung the man in front of him. The other negroes continued shooting, Harvey returning shot for shot until help was sent to him. The wounded negro was described as Percy Courten, living in Scotland street, Orange.

TEN FAMILIES ESCAPE  
FROM TENEMENT FIRE

Arson Suspected in East 99th  
Street House.

A tenant in a ten family house at 311 East Ninety-ninth street found flames starting from a corner of the first floor hallway yesterday morning and gave an alarm which awakened all of the dwellers. Firemen found piles of waste on the second and third floor landings and an inquiry was begun which was being continued last night.

On the roof, the police reported, was found an empty can which had contained kerosene, which was believed to have been used in the incendiary attempt. Most of the tenants escaped before the firemen arrived, but several persons on the third floor were taken down on ladders. The damage was slight.

VENIZOS IS JOSTLED  
BY ADMIRING THROG

An enthusiastic reception which almost amounted to a small sized riot was tendered Eleutherios Venizelos, Premier of Greece, when he attended the service yesterday at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity at 153 East Seventy-second street. Several hundred of his fellow countrymen swarmed about him to shake his hand and clambered over his machine, smashing the windshield and a headlight in their rush to greet him. The police had difficulty in dispersing the crowd.

Scores of persons lined Seventy-second street shortly before 11 o'clock, and when the machine bearing the ex-Premier arrived the crowd surged forward toward the car. The party was rushed inside the church, where seats in a place of honor beside the archbishop's throne were provided for them. The service was conducted and the sermon preached by Archbishop Melitios, Metropolitan of Athens. At the close of the service many of the members of the committee are Louis Marshall, chairman of the National Executive Committee; the Rev. Dr. Judah L. Magnes, Cyrus L. Sulzberger, A. E. Rothstein, Arthur Lehman, Abram I. Elkus, Henry Morgenthau, Judge Otto A. Rosenthal and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise.

## JUSTICE AGAIN PROBES TENANTS' COMPLAINTS

Escorted by agents of landlords, Justice Samuel Friedlander of the District Municipal Court, yesterday inspected five apartment houses between East 111th and East 123d street, on complaints of tenants that repairs had not been made or anything else done to justify rent increases ranging from \$3.50 to \$9 a month.

"Say the buildings needed repairs," Justice Friedlander said at the end of his tour. "It seemed to be some of the places should be considered uninhabitable. I told the agents so. They promised to make a more necessary character at once."

This was the Justice's second inspection trip. The first resulted in victories for several of the tenants in opposing rent advances.

GRAND PIANOS—who has not longed for one?—are being shown in the Wanamaker Piano Salons (finest in America, we are told). The collection is the most representative in Greater New York, of good Grand Pianos. It includes the CHICKERING, KNABE and SCHOMACKER.

Formerly A. T. Stewart & Co. Broadway at Ninth, New York. Open from 9 to 5:30. Telephone 4700 Stuyvesant.

Today Begins the  
Last Week of October

Thanksgiving Day is just around the corner. Then Christmas and New Year's Day swiftly follow, treading on each other's heels.

Any one who wants to help to make better times come back sooner may do so by anticipating the three holidays.

1. Thanksgiving
2. Christmas
3. New Year's

by making early choice of the pretty and useful things for presents, ready in all the stores.

To do so will give more employment to worthy people, put money into circulation, cause further business to go on in workshops and mills for renewed orders so desirable for manufacturers scattered over the country, especially in small towns and villages, where people are idle and cannot afford to use their savings put away for a windy day.

After all, come to think of it, all the world is closely related and its people more or less dependent on each other.

[Signed] John Wanamaker  
October 24, 1921.

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Early American Furniture  
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Extraordinary sale of fine silks in black and colors—special purchase, 5,000 yards, to go today at the lowest prices of the season:

—40 in. pebble-back charmeuse, \$2.70 yard.

—38-39 in. canton crepe, \$2.70 yard.

—38-39 in. satin canton, \$2.70 yard.

—40 in. charmeuse, \$1.75 yard.

Silk Rotunda, Main Floor, Old Building

CARMEN, the new duvetyn—\$5.40 yard today—is specially low priced for this new fabric, which has silk face and mercerized cotton back, a combination which gives long wearing qualities. 3,000 yards, 36 in. wide, in black and 25 smart colors—fast dye.

First Floor, Old Building

All wool blankets, \$8.75 pair—almost low enough to tempt other retailers to buy. 100 pairs are plaid blankets, 66x80 in., block designs in pink, blue, tan and gray. 60 pairs are gray blankets, 70x80 in., with pink or blue borders.

Fourth Floor, New Building

467 pieces fancy linens, half price. Importer's discontinued lines, with some of our own stocks reduced. Every piece trimmed with hand made filet lace and Italian cut work. Centerpieces, tea cloths, luncheon cloths, dinner cloths, scarfs.

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